HLS 16RS-936 ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVE CONNICK

COMMERCE: Provides relative to the promotion of trade relations between Louisiana and Cuba

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Department of Economic Development to develop and improve
3	trade relations with Cuba, to conduct a study analyzing economic opportunities
4	relative to Cuba, and to make a report of the findings of the study.
5	WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana clearly recognizes the current financial
6	climate in the state and the immediate need to develop and foster all beneficial economic
7	opportunities; and
8	WHEREAS, the international commercial market routinely changes in conjunction
9	with economic globalization, evolutions in technology, and perpetual legal and political
10	factors; it is necessary to explore and cultivate international economic opportunities; and
11	WHEREAS, global production and distribution channels are of utmost importance
12	to consumers and producers in addition to state and national economies; and
13	WHEREAS, the United States has recently taken steps to rebuild trade relations with
14	Cuba by addressing long-standing regulations and restrictions imposed on Cuban trade,
15	travel and carrier services, telecommunications, and financial industries; and
16	WHEREAS, Louisiana has historically been one of Cuba's most important and
17	influential trade partners; and
18	WHEREAS, Louisiana is less than seven hundred miles from Cuba making it closer
19	in distance than many of the state's existing domestic trade partners; and

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1	WHEREAS, ports are crucial nodes in global supply chains, and the port system in
2	Louisiana is the largest in the western hemisphere and one of the largest in the world and
3	should be utilized in a manner that will produce maximum economic advantage for the state
4	and its citizens.
5	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6	urge and request the Department of Economic Development to do the following:
7	(1) Develop and improve trade relations with Cuba to the extent the authority of the
8	department is not restricted by state or federal law.
9	(2) Conduct a study analyzing all current and future opportunities to establish
10	Louisiana as the predominant trade partner with Cuba in our region.
11	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request
12	that the Department of Economic Development make a written report of the findings of the
13	study and submit the report to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate
14	Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs no later than
15	February 1, 2017.
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

DIGEST

secretary of the Department of Economic Development and the Executive Director of

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 37 Original

International Commerce.

2016 Regular Session

Connick

Urges and requests the Dept. of Econ. Development to do the following:

- Develop and improve trade relations with Cuba to the extent the authority of the (1) department is not restricted by state or federal law.
- (2) Conduct a study analyzing all current and future opportunities to establish Louisiana as the predominant trade partner with Cuba in our region.
- Make a written report of the findings of the study and submit the report to the House (3) Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs no later Feb. 1, 2017.